A PROCLAMATION

By The *PRESIDENT* and *COUNCIL* of His Majestiy's Territory & Dominion of *NEW-ENGLAND* in AMERICA.

WHEREAS His Most Excellent Majesty our Soveraign LORD *JAMES* the Second, King of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland*, Defender of the Faith &c. by COMMISSION or *Letters Patents* under His Great Seal of *England*, bearing Date the Eight day of *October* in the first of His Reign hath been graciously pleased to erect and constitute a PRESIDENT and COUNCIL to take Care of all *that* His Territory and Dominion of *New-England* called the *Massachusets Bay*, the Provinces of *New-Hampshire* & *Main*, and the *Narraganset Countrey*, otherwise called the *Kings-Province*, with all the Islands, Rights and Members thereunto appertaining; and to Order Rule and GOVERN the same according to the Rules, Methods and Regulations specified in the said *Commission*: Together with His Majesties Gracious *Indulgence* in matters of *Religion*.

And for the Execution of His Royal pleasure in that behalf, His Majesty hath been pleased to appoint *Joseph Dudley* Esq: to be the first *PRESIDENT* of His Majesties said *Council*, & *VICE-ADMIRAL* of these *Seas*. And to Continue in the said Offices until his Majesty shall otherwise direct, & also to nominate & appoint *William Stoughton*, Esq: now *Deputy-President*, *Simon Bradstreet*, *Robert Mason*, *John Fitz-Winthrope*, *John Pynchon*, *Peter Bulkley*, *Edward Randolph*, *Wait Winthrope*, *Richard Wharton*, *John Usher*, *Nathaniel Saltonstal*, *Bartholomew Gidney*, *Jonathan Tyng*, *Dudley Bradstreet*, *John Hinks*, and *Edward Tyng*, Esq's: to be His Majesties *Council* in the said *Colony* and *Territories*.

The *President* & *Council* therefore being convened and having according to the Direction & Form of the said Commission, taken their Oathes and Entered the GOVERNMENT aforesaid; and finding it needful, that speedy & effectual Care be taken for the Observation of His Majesties Commands, and particularly for the Regulation and good Government of the *Narraganset* Countrey or *Kings-Province*, which hath hitherto been *unsettled*. They the said *President* & *Council* have resolved speedily to *erect* and *settle* a constant *Court of Record* upon the place; and that the *President*, *Deputy-President*, or some others of the Members of His Majesties Council shall be present to give all necessary Power and Directions for *Establishing* His Majesties *Government* there, and Administration of Justice to *All* His Majesties Subjects within the said *Narraganset Countrey* or *Kings-Province*, and all the *Islands*, *Rights*, and *Members* thereof. And the said *President* & *Council* have in the interim assigned *Richard Smith* Esq: *James Pendleton*, and *John Fones* Gentlemen, *Justices* to keep the *Peace* of our Soveraign Lord the KING and all His Subjects: And also given Commission to the said *Richard Smith* to be *Sergeant Major*, and Chief Commander of His Majesties *Militia*, both of *Horse* & *Foot* within the *Narraganset Countrey* or *Province*, and all the Islands Rights and Members thereof. THEREFORE the said *President* & *Council* doe hereby in His Majesties Name and by virtue of His said Commission strictly Require & Command all other persons *being* or *coming* upon the place, to forbear the Excercise of all manner of Jurisdiction, Authority, and Power, and to cease all further Proceedings for the Allotments or Divisions of Land, or making any *Strip* or *Waste* upon any part of the said Province, save only on each man's *stated* Propriety, except by Licence obtained from the said Court, or the *President* & *Council*, until there shall be such effectual Regulation and Government established as is directed by His Majesty. And the said *President* & *Council* doe hereby henceforth *discharge* all His Majesties Subjects within the said *Narraganset Countrey* or *Kings Province* and all the Islands, Rights & Members thereof *from* the Government of the *Governour* & *Company* of *Connecticut* & *Rhode-Island* and *Providence* Plantation, & all others pretending any Power or Jurisdiction. Hereby Charging & Commanding all His Majesties Subjects to yeild ready & due *Obedience* to the said *Justices* of the Peace, the *Sergeant Major* or Cheif Commander of His Majesties *Militia*. And *George Weightman*, *Thomas Eldridge*, *Thomas Monford* and *William Chaplin* are hereby appointed & authorized present Constables: and Liberty given to the aforesaid Justices to appoint so many more as they shall see needful to them, and to administer Oathes unto the aforesaid Constables & such as are to be Ordeined. And all other persons are to be *aiding* & *assisting* unto them the said Justices and Constables in the Execution and Discharge of their respective Offices, Charges and Trusts, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost Peril.

Given from the Council-house *in* Boston *this* 28*th Day of May Anno Domini* 1686. *Annoq: Regni Regis* Jacobi Secundi *secundo*.

By the President and Council, *Edward Randolph* Secr':

GOD SAVE THE KING

BOSTON, *in* N. E. *Printed by* Richard Pierce, *Printer to the Honourable His Majesties* President *and* Council *of this Government*.

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